



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/649,838

08/28/2003

Takashi Yamada

325772032900

7149

25227 7590 05/14/2008

MORRISON & FOERSTER LLP
1650 TYSONS BOULEVARD
SUITE 400
MCLEAN, VA 22102

EXAMINER

GRAINGER, QUANA MASHELL

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2852

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/14/2008

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/649,838	Applicant(s) YAMADA, TAKASHI	
	Examiner Quana M. Grainger	Art Unit 2852	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 January 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8,9,11-13,15 and 16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8,9,11-13,15 and 16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 August 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>1-22-2008</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, *the circuit board mounted to a power supply* using at least two configurations must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). Two different mounting of the circuit and the power supply is not shown in the drawings. No new matter should be entered.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as “amended.” If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either “Replacement Sheet” or “New Sheet” pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Art Unit: 2852

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-2 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Yamada (applicant cited utility application S63-28273).

The electric apparatus by Yamada comprises: a power supply unit that has terminals to supply power to a circuit board; and a circuit board mountable to said power supply unit using at least two different mounting orientations, wherein the current path is configured to change depending on the orientation in which said circuit board is mounted wherein said circuit board is mountable to said power supply unit in two different orientations whereby one such orientation has a 180° rotational relationship to the other orientation; such orientation being obtained by rotating the circuit board relative to an axis perpendicular to the surface thereof. The power consumed by said circuit board can be changed depending on the direction in which it is mounted to said power supply unit (abstract; figures 1, 4).

Yamada teaches an electric apparatus comprising: a power supply unit that has terminals to supply power to a circuit board; and a circuit board mountable to said power supply unit using at least two different mounting orientations, wherein the current path is configured to change depending on the orientation in which said circuit board is mounted, wherein said circuit board is mountable to said power supply unit in two different orientations whereby one such orientation has a 180° rotational relationship to the other orientation; such orientation being obtained by rotating the circuit board relative to an axis parallel to the surface thereof (figures 1, 4).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 3-7, 9, 11-13, and 15-16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamada in view of Ono (07-121055A).

Yamada teaches that the circuit elements include an electromagnetic induction coil but does not teach a circuit board includes a plurality of connection points at which said circuit board is connected to said power supply unit, and two circuit elements that are installed between the connection points, such that the connection between the two circuit elements may be switched between series connection and parallel connection by changing the orientation in which said circuit board is mounted to said power supply unit (abstract).

Yamada does not teach that the connection between the two elements can be switched between series and parallel.

Ono teaches an electric apparatus wherein said circuit board includes a plurality of connection points at which said circuit board is connected to said power supply unit, and two circuit elements that are installed between the connection points, such that the connection between the two circuit elements may be switched between series connection and parallel connection by changing the orientation in which said circuit board is mounted to said power supply unit (abstract, figure 5). Ono teaches a heating device comprising: a power supply unit

Art Unit: 2852

that has terminals for supplying power to a circuit board; and a circuit board that has a heater and is mounted to the power supply unit in at least two different orientations such that the current path to the heater is changed depending on the mounting orientation wherein the output of the heater can be changed depending on the direction in which it is mounted to said power supply unit (figure 5). The output of the heater can be maintained at a constant level by changing the orientation in which said circuit board is mounted to said power supply unit based on the voltage impressed by said power supply unit to said circuit board (abstract).

The examiner takes official notice that it is known in the art to use an inductive heating element in a fixing device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teaching of Ono with the image forming device of Yamada to provide a fixing device which can be used in every country with a different power supply voltages (Ono, abstract: lines 1-3).

Response to Arguments

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to the claims have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Please note with respect to the drawing objection, the claims recite a circuit board mountable to a power supply using at least two configurations. Therefore, the drawings should depict a circuit board and power supply mounted in one configuration and the circuit board and the power supply mounted in a different configuration. Each of these drawings should contain a circuit board and a power supply. The drawing objection will remain until this claimed

Art Unit: 2852

limitation is shown or removed from the claims. Please point out in the drawings where this is included if applicant believes this is already depicted.

Contact Information

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quana M. Grainger whose telephone number is 571-272-2135. The examiner can normally be reached on 10am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Gray can be reached on 571-272-2119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Quana M Grainger/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2852

QG